GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:163
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2001
OPTICAL FIBRE CABLE NETWORK .
PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY;SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the policy of the Railways to lay Optical Fibre Cable network in the whole country;

(b) if so, the details thereof as well as the time frame, if any, in this regard; and

(c) the details of Optical Fibre Cable Network laid so far alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon, zone- wise ? ANSWER

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 163 BY SHRI THIRUNAVUKA AND SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 8.3.2001 REGARDING OPTICAL FIBRE CAB NETWORK â€¦â€¦â€¦â€¦

(a) & (b): Railways have taken a policy decision to provide Optical Fibre Cable systems in all future Railway Electrification Projects as well as in sections where Copper cable is due for replacement. The Optical Fibre cable networkis also being laid on sections based upon the operational need. Besides Indian Railways has also set up a corporation Â RailTel Corporation of India Ltd. to lay optical fibre cable along Railway track utilizing its Right of Way and market surplus capacity.

(c): A total of 4958 Rkms of Optical Fibre Cable network has been commissioned so far on Indian Railways. Zone/Railway wise break up of the existing network is: S.No. Zone RKMs

1.	Central Railway	836
2.	Eastern Railway	427
3.	Northern Railway	579
4.	Northeast Frontier Rly.	20
5.	South Eastern Railway	1523
6.	Southern Railway	448
7	Western Railway	205
8.	Konkan Railway	920

Total 4958 - These Optical Fibre Cable networks have been commissioned on different sections over a long period of time with costing applicable at the time of commissioning. Optical Fibre Cable networkhas been laid as part of other works and along with other items of work like laying of Quad Cable etc. Separate expenditure on Optical Fibre Cab le network alone is not maintained.